

160 km away probably represent the nearest extant populations]. Only three hybrid individuals (most probably first generation progeny) are known; a search of other areas of San Luis Obispo County where the two taxa co-exist has not revealed additional intermediates. Discovery of these natural hybrids could be extremely important in further taxonomic studies of the fleshy-fruited prickly-pears.

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ARGEMONE MUNITA (PAPAVERACEAE): RANGE EXTENSION AND MORPHOLOGICAL NOTES.—The range of *Argemone munita* Dur. & Hilg. has been extended north and west: California, Trinity County, 8 km NW Stuart Gap on Forest Service Road 28N10, Trinity National Forest, T2S, R11W, sec. 25, 1370 m, 12 June 1973, *Hohn 1085* with Louise Sparks, WTU. A small population was observed on a southeast-facing embankment and roadside ditch. A review of pertinent literature revealed localities for this species along the eastern slopes of the Sierra Nevada north to Shasta County and in the coast ranges to Lake and Colusa Counties, California (G.B. Ownbey, Mem. Torrey Bot. Club 21(1). 1958).

In his monograph, Ownbey stated that *A. munita* is a highly variable species and that precise definition of it is difficult. Four subspecies were described and intermediates (putative hybrids) occur between two of them: subsp. *munita* and subsp. *rotundata* (Rydb.) G. Ownbey. Specimens from localities nearest Trinity County (Shasta County) are intermediate between these two subspecies. Plants from Trinity County are atypical within the morphological limits set for *A. munita* and appear to be aberrant forms unlike any of the described variants or intermediates. A character frequently used in recognizing aberrant forms within the species is the indurated apical spine of the sepal horn. The spine tends to be flattened and enlarged at its juncture with the herbaceous lower part of the horn in plants from the new locality. Such aberrant forms pose taxonomic problems, yet a conservative course in this case is probably the wisest one. In spite of obvious objections, these plants should be assigned provisionally to subsp. *munita* (pers. comm. G.B. Ownbey). Further collection and study of *A. munita* in the Stuart Gap area is desirable.—JANET E. HOHN, Department of Botany, University of Washington, Seattle 98195.